

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

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LESSON FOR MARCH 3

CALL OF THE FIRST DISCIPLES.

LESSON TEXT—MARK 1:1-11; Luke 9:1-17.

GOLDEN TEXT.—The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few. Pray ye therefore, the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth laborers into his harvest.—Matt. 9:37-38.

(This exposition of the lesson is based on the narrative in Luke 9:1-11.) Already in our previous lessons we have seen Christ as the founder of the Kingdom of Heaven upon the earth. He was born a king; his baptism was in a sense the inauguration of the king; the temptation, the testing of the king. Being himself thus prepared, we see him starting out to recruit the first members of his kingdom, who, in addition to being members of the kingdom themselves, should also be instrumental in enlisting others under its banner.

In the call of these first disciples, we recognize the essential conditions which were to underlie all subsequent calls of discipleship. To discover these conditions should be the purpose of all who teach this lesson. The fundamental condition, or conditions underlying entrance into the Kingdom of God, are forever the same with each succeeding generation. "The gifts and calling of God are without change."

We are told that the "crowds pressed upon Jesus to hear the Word of God." The preaching of the Word of God is always a drawing card. The crowds have not wearied of the preaching of the gospel, but only of the average preacher who fails to preach the gospel. Wherever you find a man who, like Moody, Torrey, Spurgeon, and many others, preaches the Word of God, there you will find the streets full of men and women still pressing to hear the message. Fire will always attract those who are cold, and food those who are hungry. So will the preaching of the simple gospel attract the hearts of men for whom it is prepared. The world was made for the gospel, and the gospel for the world.

All great sermons in the Bible were preached in the open air. If the people will not come to church, then let us take the church to them. If it was not beneath the dignity of Jesus Christ to hold open air meetings, it surely cannot be beneath any pretended and assumed dignity we may profess to possess. Let some ministers who, during the hot months of the year, preach to but a corporal's guard, go out into the open air and preach to the crowds. The best way to reach the masses is to go after them.

Jesus requested of these men the loan of their boats, and they at once complied with the Master's request. In other words, he asked these men to surrender their business for a little while to him. And they did. How magnificently he repaid them is seen in the miraculous draught of fishes. No man can surrender his business to Jesus Christ without eventually being a gainer by it. He "shall receive a hundredfold more in this life, and in the world to come life everlasting."

Next, Jesus requires that these men recognize him as knowing more about their business than they do themselves. He requires them to do what their own common sense tells them there is no use in doing. This is evident by the answer of Peter: "Lord we have toiled all night and caught nothing, nevertheless, etc." The word "Lord" meaning "shipmaster."

Christ required from these men the surrender of their whole lives. They foretook their nets, and their business, and followed him. This was final and complete obedience. Ever after they were to devote their lives to catching men, not fish.

No man can enlist under the banner of Christ, nor become a member of the Kingdom of God, who is not willing to make an absolute surrender of himself and all that he has and expects to be to the Christ and his service. "So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple." Of course, Christ may not, in fact does not call upon us all to leave our daily vocation and become preachers or missionaries. No; oftentimes he calls upon us to do what is very much harder—to stay in business and use it for him and his kingdom. There can be no question, however, but that ere we can become Christ's disciples there must be the complete surrender of ourselves to his absolute and authoritative control. This is the crucial test of Christianity. And it is just at this point of unconditional surrender that many people hesitate and oftentimes refuse to comply with the terms of discipleship.

Implied, yea, clearly stated, in this call to membership in the kingdom, was the consecration of these fishermen to the task of catching men. In some Sunday schools, there is kept what is called a "Fishermen's Roll," on which there is recorded each Sunday the names of those who have brought in new members. It is a great work to bring others to Sunday school and to church; it is greater still to bring them to Jesus Christ. In the first chapter of John we have a detailed account of how these disciples caught their first "fish" for their "shipmaster."

Farm and Road Improvement

PLANNING FOR THE HOT BED

It Will Reduce Grocery Bill Considerably This Spring—Kansas Way Is One Good Suggestion.

Better think about making that hot-bed for early radishes and lettuce. It doesn't cost much, and it will lower the grocery bill. Here is the way recommended by the horticultural department of the Kansas State Agricultural college:

Dig a hole two feet deep, a little larger than the size of the hot-bed frame. If the hot-bed is to be permanent, the walls of this pit should be lined with brick, stone or cement. When possible, have a shed or board fence on the north side of the bed. It will take less manure to heat the soil. Put two feet of well-mixed fresh horse manure in the hole, wet thoroughly, and tamp. If the manure is not well tamped, the soil will settle unevenly when the manure decays.

Two-inch material makes a better and stronger frame and will last longer. The front of the frame should be six inches high, the back eighteen inches. Put five inches of dirt on the manure, preferably the richest soil you can get. Fill in around the frame with manure and earth and put the cover on the frame.

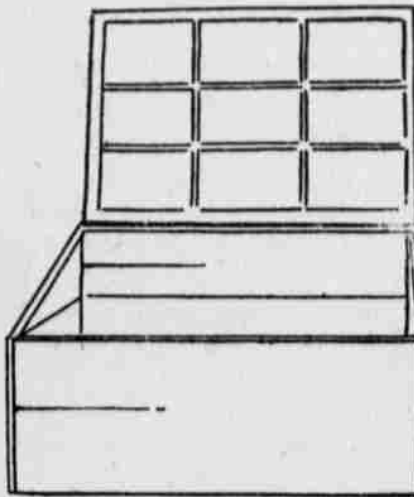
Glass sashes are best for covers. Cloth may be used late in the season. The size of a sash is three by six feet. The bed, itself, should be six feet wide and as many times three feet long as desired.

The temperature of the hot-bed will be high at first. Use a thermometer. When the heat has fallen to 85 degrees the seed may be planted. Keep the bed well watered, but do not soak. Too much water rots the manure too rapidly. Be sure the bed is well ventilated. When sashes are used, they must be raised to let in the fresh air in mild weather. Extra covers should be provided for cold days and nights.

GLASS SASH FOR HOT BEDS

Latest Invention Is So Arranged as to Allow Air to Circulate and Ventilate Beds.

The newest invention to make winter gardening easy and successful, is a sash for hotbeds or cold frames that have two layers of glass instead of one. Between these layers is a cushion of dry air about five-eighths of an inch thick. The glass on both sides is lapped and adjusted to lie as close as possible, but no putty is used. When the weather is warm



Home-Made Hot Bed.

enough to melt snow or ice, the air circulates sufficiently to ventilate the bed; but when it is cold enough to freeze every crevice is sealed by the moisture concealed in the cracks. When very cold weather prevails, the air cushion is absolutely dry and in this condition it is a perfect non-conductor of either heat or cold.

Even in zero weather the sun, shining through the glass and enclosed air, raises the temperature of the bed to a good growing warmth; and at night only a portion of this warmth escapes.

Cabbage, cauliflower, lettuce, beets, violets and pansy plants, it is claimed, are safe under the double glass, at 8 to 10 degrees below zero; and even tomato, pepper and eggplants have been grown in hot beds without any cover except the double glass in a temperature nearly down to zero.

The saving of labor is considerable when the double-glass sash is used. No covering or uncovering is required. No mats or boards are needed. The double sash for hotbeds have been found to be a great saving of heat, less coal is required to keep up a given temperature—the plants make a stronger growth and are less liable to leaf drop.

Well-Trained Hired Man.

The hired man on the farm who has mastered his business is a skilled laborer, and should be so treated, yet it is usually impossible for him to get a small amount per month, a mere trifle, over the price paid the inefficient laborer.

Raising Living at Home.

The first thought of the farmer should be this year how to raise his living at home. Begin now to get everything in readiness for an early start.

Doing all the Giving

"I think I'll have to change my position," declared the little stenographer, belligerently, as she closed the drawers of the filing cabinet with a force that would have smashed any but a steel contrivance.

"Be calm, be calm!" remonstrated the bookkeeper as he turned for further particulars. "Count one hundred slowly and then tell me about it."

"Well, I've nearly made up my mind to change!" she exclaimed, dropping into a chair. "I'm going to look for a private office, a private secretaryship!"

"Oh, ambition ails you, does it?" The bookkeeper smiled knowingly. "Salary ran low at Christmas?"

"No, it isn't that," objected the little stenographer, "but, of course, I'd just as soon have an increase of salary. I think I could use it." She paused, meditatively. "No, I think I'd be willing to stay here, if only to remain in your company"—he smiled and bowed—"even with the meager stipend I now receive, if I could use it for my own needs, and in my own way!"

"Ah! Aged mother—crippled brother—educating little sister," suggested the bookkeeper, helpfully.

"No," returned the little stenographer, with surprisingly little heat. "Not that you mean it, and yet that's the very reason! But it's some one else's mother and brother and sister!" The little stenographer looked at him out of sad, wide eyes.

"Say," exclaimed the bookkeeper, "you aren't playing square. You've got to talk, not look sad. Why, in a minute I'll be handing you my pay envelope!"

"Well, to prevent such a dire catastrophe I'll explain," she agreed. "It begins in the morning about two minutes after I get my hat off and my pocket book by my side where all may see it. The door opens, and as it's my duty to greet all callers I have to get up and talk. Now, all the men have said not to call them except on real business, and I can't tell every beggar, or agent, or little boy or girl, to go see Mr. Brown or Mr. Daniels! My position wouldn't be worth two cents if I did! And I can't call Mr. Brown or Mr. Daniels out to see them, can I? No! But I have ears, and they at once proceed to work on my sympathies. They think if they can't get the big men perhaps I can help them a little. I look kind—oh, I know I do, for they all tell me so—and won't I please help them out?"

"I can't tell them that I have no money, for they see my giant bag, and they know there must be something in it. You may ask why I don't buy a small bag, just big enough for car fare and lunches, but it's the honest truth that I don't have enough money left from my many charities to buy one!"

"It might be all right and do my soul good, if only I felt charitable—but I don't, not a bit! I fairly despise every youngster who pleads. 'I'm trying to earn money by selling this beautiful gum of these beautiful cards!' And when a woman explains that she must have \$10 to pay her rent or else be compelled to go out on the street with a three-month-old baby, I'm fairly nauseated!"

"No, it isn't charity, not a bit of it. Now, I like to give something sometimes when I feel that I can spare it, but I don't like to do the charity work for this whole big establishment. Why, I give to everybody! And why? For pure shame! That's all it is—I'm ashamed not to! Somehow or other, everybody makes me feel that I'm a selfish pig if I don't help, and I'm sorry all the time they are talking and ever afterward that I'm so soft—but I can't help it!"

"So you see, the only remedy I know of is a private secretaryship, where I can give commands to the outer office force not to call me for anything at all! Do you happen to know of anybody who is in need of my services in that capacity?"

\$15,000,000 Forged in 1911.

"Albert S. Osborn, author of 'Questioned Documents,' and an authority on the subject, declares that the forgery loss in this country for the year 1911 is fully \$15,000,000," writes Frank Marshall White in the Munsey. In an article, "The Day of the Forger," the writer quotes Osborn as saying:

"Clever penmen are leaving a trail of bad checks reaching from Portland, Me., to Portland, Ore. Banks and hotels are naturally the shining marks of the forger; but nearly, if not quite, as much money is paid out on forgeries by individuals, small storekeepers, and business houses as by all the banks and hotels combined. A large proportion, especially of the unreported forgeries, is in amounts of less than \$100. If the forger of a small check has vanished, and only a doubtful clue remains, the natural impulse is not to 'send good money after bad.' In most cases, nothing is done, and the criminal goes on his way unhampered and unafraid. Banks naturally do not care to have it known that they pay out customers' money on forged paper, and if the forger is gone they are not inclined to take much trouble to find him."

RACK AND LOADING DEVICES

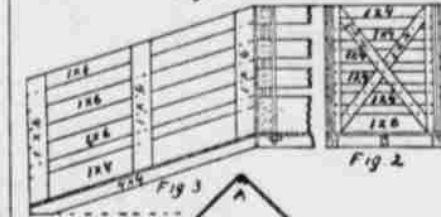
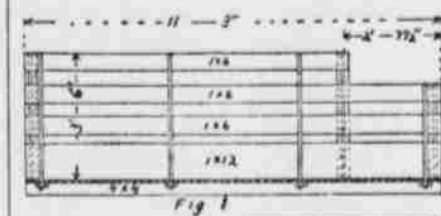
Excellent for Handling Cattle, Hogs or Sheep—Height and Length Can Be Varied.

The following is given in response to a recent inquiry for plan of a stock rack, writes F. L. Marsh in the Farm, Stock and Home. Figure 1 is a side view of a rack suitable for handling cattle, hogs or sheep. The length and height can be varied for special reason, but is about correct for general use. The bottom will serve for a wood rack, by using stronger timber. A 4x4 fir at each side and a 2x4 in the middle is strong enough for stock. The bottom is boarded crosswise. The sides are nailed or luted to hardwood stakes, fitting into medium sized rack irons. Thus each side is removable.

The end gates are held by cleats and rods, as in a common wagon box. The rear end gate is shown in Fig. 2. A similar gate is placed back of the low part. The front gate should be tight. A seat may be placed on the low part, resting on side frame. The front compartment can be used for calves, or in case of a full load the middle gate can be removed.

Fig. 3 shows a loading chute, placed to connect with rear end of rack. The front end may be mounted on a pair of old wheels. The height and pitch should be suited to the height of the wagon used. The bottom of chute should be cleated, so stock will not slip, and the chute should be wider at rear end.

Fig. 4 shows a paddock which can be set where most convenient, and after the stock are driven into it can be moved to the rear end of chute.



Stock Rack and Loading Devices.

Then angle A is opened to width of chute, and hooked to it. The chute need not flare, if used with the paddock. The latter should be about 12 feet on each side. At the other corners are strong hinges on 2x4's. At angles B and C the hinges are on the outside, at D on the inside. Thus the pen may be folded up, and handled by one person, or very easily by two. Large castor wheels may be placed at each corner, with two at A.

One Good Mutton Breed.

Mutton sheep should never be of mixed breeds on one farm. Get one good mutton breed, stick to it and develop it to the highest notch possible. A lot of mixed lambs never bring the highest price on the market. It is those of one breed, uniform in size, shape and condition that get the big money.

Corn a Poor Horse Feed.

It is claimed on reliable authority that corn-fed horses are more susceptible to disease than those given other grains. Corn may enter into the ration but it should not be the entire ration.

LIVE STOCK NOTES

Breed for merit as well as pedigree. It is very desirable that the ewe lambs exercise daily.

Rock salt for the cattle is preferable to the ordinary kind.

Wire and cut worms are numerous in old meadows and pastures.

Never loosen or throw out any more silage than you want to feed immediately.

Just now the heavy steer is a much sought after article in the live stock markets.

The colts and unused horses should spend most of each pleasant day in the paddock.

The prosperous and most successful farmer is comfortable only when his stock is comfortable.

Those who do not have a supply of alfalfa on hand will find red clover to be a satisfactory substitute.

A pleasant, cheerful, fearless disposition is a valuable quality in a roadster or a general-purpose horse.

Out straw that is free from mold makes an excellent winter forage for mules, young cattle and boarding horses.

Small breeders of limited means should aim to raise animals that combine size, beauty and style with speed, ability, courage and endurance.

The meadows look good for pasture in the fall and early spring, but the man who keeps his cattle off of them always gets better crops of hay.

A horse or a colt will thrive better upon a two-thirds ration of hay and one-third of straw than upon full ration of hay alone.

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MARSHALL.

February 26, 1912.

Rev. Shriver filled the C. U. pulpit Sunday and took dinner with R. R. Watts and family.

Mrs. D. A. McCall returned home Thursday, after a two weeks visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Elliot.

Rev. John Naylor, of Hillsboro, is helping Rev. Johnson with protracted meeting at the C. U. church.

Mrs. S. M. Mason, Mrs. Will Frump and Miss Carrie Carlisle called on Miss Anna Dick, Friday.

Miss Nellie Stethem entertained Miss Daisy Davis, Arch Cameron and Earl Koger Sunday.

Glenn Spruance and sisters, Osa and Elva, spent Sunday with A. W. Lucas and family.

Rev. Johnson took dinner Sunday with Wm. Stethem and family.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Hunter entertained Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Beavers and daughter, Margaret. John Burnett and family, Mrs. Alice Burnett and Wilfred Hunter, Sunday.

M. Yarger and family and Carey Carlisle and family are moving to New London today.

O. N. Hughes spent Saturday and Sunday at home.

Frank Lucas and wife and Mrs. Geo. Sams and son, Orville, spent Sunday with C. E. Lucas and family.

Rev. Naylor took supper Saturday with J. N. Wise and family.

Misses Ruth and Grace Kneisley spent Friday with Harry Wright and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Jas. Creed spent Thursday with Wm. Creed and family.

Jas. Elliott and family spent Sunday with Mrs. L. A. Elliott.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Henry, of Carmel, spent Sunday with the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Miller.

Will Frump and family entertained Jas. Beets and granddaughter, Eva Storer, of Berryville, and Rev. Naylor, Sunday.

J. M. VanZant is sick.

The new terminal of the Canadian Northern Railroad in Montreal will cost \$25,000,000.

Scarborough Real Estate.

SHACKELTON.

Feb. 26, 1912.

Aunt Mahala McKee and family entertained Mrs. Henry Purdy Sunday.

Miss Zephia Pence spent Saturday night and Sunday with her friend, Miss Rose Trop.

Ellis Wilkin and wife entertained the latter's daughter, Miss Daisy Carpenter, and the Misses Chaney, of Allensburg, and Miss Carpenter, of Lynchburg, Saturday night and Sunday.

P. W. Charles and wife and Will Charles and wife spent Tuesday with B. F. Cox.

Mrs. Theodore Cluff has returned home after an extended visit with her son in Illinois.

Carl Stockwell and Gale Wilkin, of Danville, were the guests of Walter Lemon and wife Friday night.

Albert Pence and wife spent one day recently with the latter's parents.

Miss Rose Wilkin is spending a few weeks in Hillsboro with her grandmother in Hillsboro.

Aunt Kate Wood enjoyed Friday with Mrs. Wesley Pence.

Ira Miller is now spending a few days with his daughter, Mrs. Grace Barrere.

Charles Trop and family entertained to dinner Tuesday George Culhan and wife and daughter, Stella, of Russell, Robert Hottle and wife and Mrs. Will Haines.

Miss Willa Robinson spent Friday night in Hillsboro.

Frank Calley and wife were the guests of James Wilkin and family Sunday.

Harley Cluff and wife and son, Heber, were guests of Ed Chaney and family, near Dunn's Chapel, Sunday.

Austin Robinson and family entertained Walter Lemon and wife and daughter, Norma, and McManus Eakins and wife and son, Harley, Sunday.

The entertainment given at the Glendale School Friday night by the efficient teacher, Homer Emery, was highly appreciated by the large crowd present. All enjoyed the program and especially the music furnished by the Danville band.

The Japanese make vegetable isinglass from six varieties of seaweed.